A NEW SPECIES AND NEW COMBINATION IN AUSTRALIAN TRYPETINAE (DIPTERA: TEPHRITIDAE)

D.L. HANCOCK

Department of Primary Industries, Meiers Rd, Indooroopilly, Qld 4068

Abstract

Termitorioxa cobourgensis sp. nov. is described from the Northern Territory and further locality records provided for *T. laurae* Permkam & Hancock and *T. termitoxena* (Bezzi) . *Piestometopon distinctum* (Permkam & Hancock), comb. nov., is transferred from *Elleipsa* Hardy and the status of *P. luteiceps* de Meijere (= *E. quadrifasciata* Hardy) noted.

Introduction

Seventy-eight species of Trypetinae have been recorded from Australia (Hancock 1995). Recent quarantine surveillance in the Northern Territory has yielded a further new species of *Termitorioxa* Hendel, bringing to 7 the number of known Australian species. Specimens of *Termitorioxa* occasionally appear in cue-lure traps used in monitoring and detection surveys. They are superficially similar to *Dirioxa pornia* (Walker), a species of quarantine interest, but differ in characters such as wing pattern and colour and the presence of 2 apical spines on the mid tibia (only 1 in *Dirioxa* Hendel). Recent synonymy of *Elleipsa* Hardy with *Piestometopon* de Meijere (Hancock and Drew 1995) necessitates nomenclatural changes to the two species placed in *Elleipsa* by Permkam and Hancock (1995), with one placed in synonymy and the other in a new combination.

Collections are abbreviated as follows: BARS - Berrimah Agricultural Research Station, Darwin; NTQIB - Northern Territory Quarantine and Inspection Branch, Darwin; QDPI - Queensland Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane; QM - Queensland Museum, Brisbane.

Key to Australian species of *Termitorioxa*

1 Wing with a curved longitudinal hyaline streak from spot above dm-cu crossvein to apex of cell r4+5 ..... *bicalcarata* (Hering)
Wing without a hyaline streak at apex of cell r4+5 2

2 Cell dm with an elongate hyaline band along vein CuA1; hyaline spot in cell r4+5 connected to indentation in cell m ..... *testacea* (Hendel)
Cell dm dark except for a transverse hyaline subapical band or spot; hyaline spot in cell r4+5 free from indentation in cell m 3

3 Cell c yellow or with a yellow costal band along its entire length; postnotum blackish-brown or red-brown laterally 4
Cell c hyaline or with a yellow costal band over basal 2/3; postnotum entirely fulvous 5

4 1 orbital bristle; scutum normally with a pair of brown posterior markings adjacent to scutellum; postnotum blackish-brown laterally; wing dark brown with distinct yellowish areas in most of cell dm and around r-m crossvein; male with a tuft of fine hairs at apex of arista *t*.....*ermitoxena* (Bezzi)

2 orbital bristles; scutum without dark posterior markings; postnotum red-brown laterally; wing pale brown without distinct yellowish areas noted above; male unknown ..... *cobourgensis* sp. nov.

5 Cell cua1 with a hyaline indentation at apex, below dm-cu crossvein .....*exleyae* Permkam & Hancock

Cell cua1 without a hyaline indentation at apex 6

6 Hyaline indentaion in cell r1 crosses vein R2+3 into cell r2+3; cell c with a yellow costal band over basal 2/3 ..... *laurae* Permkam & Hancock

Hyaline indentaion in cell r1 small, not crossing vein R2+3; cell c without a yellow costal band ..... *inconnexa* Permkam & Hancock

Tribe ACANTHONEVRINI

Genus *Termitorioxa* Hendel

Termitorioxa Hendel, 1928: 351 (as subgenus of *Rioxa* Walker). Type species *R. termitoxena* Bezzi, by monotypy.

Termitorioxa cobourgensis sp. nov. (Fig. 1)

Types. NORTHERN TERRITORY: Holotype ♀, Smith Pt, Cobourg Pen., 15.i.[19]93, cue, I. Haselgrove (QM); 2 ♀♀ paratypes, same data (QDPI).

Description. Female: Length of body (including oviscape) 6.5-7.0 mm; of wing 6.5-7.0 mm. Head slightly higher than long; face vertical. Frons covered with dense, short black setae and with 2 pairs each of frontal and orbital bristles, the upper orbital a little weaker than the lower. Ocellar bristles thin and weak; a row of thin black postocular brisles present; genal bristle present. Antennae fulvous; third segment apically rounded; arista plumose. Thorax fulvous, with a full complement of bristles, including weak intrapostalars and 1 or more very small additional bristles before or behind supraalars; dorsocentrals placed close to line of supraalars; 3-5 anepisternal bristles, the upper one well developed, the others generally thin and weak. Scutum fulvous, unmarked. Scutellum yellow, with fine pale brown setae at sides and 6 black scutellar bristles, all well developed. Postnotum fulvous medially, red-brown laterally. Postpronotal lobe with long pale hairs anteriorly. Legs fulvous; mid tibia with 2 long black apical spines and 2 prominent black posterodorsal setae; hind femur with a cluster of brown to black setae dorsoapically; hind tibia with a row of anterodorsal setae. Wing (Fig. 1) with pattern brown, tinged yellowish at and just above apex of cell dm; cell c and basal half of cell br yellow (yellow in cell c reduced to a broad costal band in 1 specimen); cell bc hyaline. Hyaline indentations in cells r1+r2+3, in cell m and in cell cua1; a hyaline spot present in each of cells br and r4+5 and near apex of cell dm. Veins R1 and R4+5 setose; r-m crossvein beyond middle of cell dm; cell cup with apical lobe long and narrow. Abdomen fulvous to pale red-brown. Oviscape dark red-brown to brown, about twice length of tergite V; tergite VI poorly developed. Aculeus with apex rounded and 2 pairs of preapical setae.

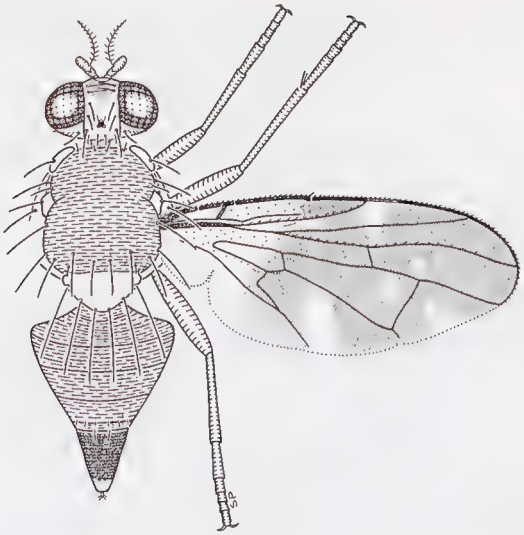

Fig. 1. *Termitorioxa cobourgensis* sp. nov., female.

Distribution. Known only from the type locality, Cobourg Peninsula (near Darwin), Northern Territory.

Comments. This species most resembles *T. termitoxena* (Bezzi) in wing markings and the laterally red-brown postnotum; it differs in lacking scutal and scutellar dark markings, in the presence of 2 pairs each of frontal and orbital bristles and in the paler wing pattern with less distinct yellow-brown areas. From all other species it differs in the combination of laterally red-brown postnotum, lack of dark scutal markings and details of the wing pattern, particularly the yellow cells c and base of br.

Termitorioxa laurae Permkam & Hancock

Termitorioxa laurae Permkam & Hancock, 1995: 1124.

New locality records. NORTHERN TERRITORY: 1 ♀, Katherine, 22.viii.1989, H. Brown & M. Neal, on leaf of *Mangifera indica* (BARS); 1 ♂, Milingimbi [Arnhem Land], 20.iv.1982, G. Mains, cue lure (BARS); 1 ♂, Snake Bay [Melville I.], 14.ii.1991, H.G. Perona (NTQIB).

Termitorioxa termitoxena (Bezzi)

Rioxa termitoxena Bezzi, 1919: 2.

New locality records. NORTHERN TERRITORY: 1 ♂, Snake Bay [Melville I.], 14.ii.1991, H.G. Perona (NTQIB); 1 ♀, Smith Pt, Cobourg Pen., 11.xi.1994, cue, I. Haselgrove (NTQIB); 3 ♂, 6 ♀♀, Garden Pt, Melville I., xi.1995, cue lure, G. Bellis (QDPI).

Tribe EUPHRANTINI

Genus *Piestometopon* de Meijere

Piestometopon de Meijere, 1914: 213. Type species *P. luteiceps* de Meijere, by original designation.

Elleipsa Hardy, 1970: 90. Type species *E. quadrifasciata* Hardy, by original designation. (For synonymy see Hancock and Drew 1995).

Piestometopon distinctum (Permkam & Hancock), comb. nov.

Elleipsa distincta Permkam & Hancock, 1995: 1146.

Distribution. Southeast Queensland.

Comments. With the placement of *Elleipsa* as a junior synonym of *Piestometopon* by Hancock and Drew (1995), the above new combination becomes necessary.

Piestometopon luteiceps de Meijere

Piestometopon luteiceps de Meijere, 1914: 213.

Elleipsa quadrifasciata Hardy, 1970: 90.

Distribution. Java, Balabac I. (Philippines), Singapore, Tonga, Saibai I. (Torres Strait, N. Queensland).

Comments. Synonymy was discussed by Hancock and Drew (1995). The species previously known in Australia and the South Pacific (Hancock and Drew 1994, Permkam and Hancock 1995) as *Elleipsa quadrifasciata* thus should be referred to as *P. luteiceps.*

Acknowledgments

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